

April 3, 2009

The Honorable Alan B. Mollohan  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice &  
Science  
Committee on Appropriations  
H-310 Capitol  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Wolf  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice &  
Science  
Committee on Appropriations  
H-310 Capitol  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Mollohan and Ranking Member Wolf:

We are writing to thank you for your consistent support for the National Science Foundation (NSF) and to urge you to continue that support in the fiscal year 2010 (FY10) appropriations bill. We ask that you uphold the Administration's FY10 funding level request of \$7.0 billion for the National Science Foundation.

The NSF funds investigator-initiated, peer-reviewed, competitively selected awards, state-of-the-art tools, instrumentation, facilities, and educational programs. In 2007, an esteemed panel at the National Academies issued an urgent warning that we may be losing our economic edge in science and technology. The panel's *Rising Above the Gathering Storm* report served as a catalyst for Congress and the Administration to pass the America COMPETES Act (P.L. 110-69), which authorizes doubling the funding for the physical sciences over a seven-year period. The COMPETES Act authorizes \$8.1 billion for NSF in FY10.

Despite mounting evidence that we are continuing to lose our position as worldwide leaders in science and technology and overwhelming support for the COMPETES Act, funding for the NSF fell short of the doubling path in the FY07, FY08 and FY09 regular appropriations cycles. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (H.R. 1) included a lump sum of \$3.0 billion for the NSF which will help, but the NSF needs sustained annual funding to maintain our competitive edge in science and technology.

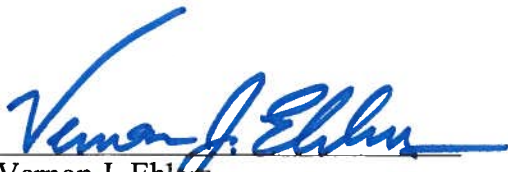
A renewed commitment to core basic research and educational programs at the NSF is an essential part of meeting the multidisciplinary challenges we face in areas such as energy, health care, and nanotechnology. In an increasingly competitive global marketplace, we must make sustained investments in the physical sciences and engineering through the National Science Foundation.

Past investments in the NSF have resulted in technological advances that have driven our economic growth and bolstered our national defense. We respectfully request that you continue to support such advances by funding the NSF at \$7.0 billion in the FY10 appropriations bill.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

Cc:  
Chairman David R. Obey  
Ranking Member Jerry Lewis



Vernon J. Ehlers  
Member of Congress



Rush Holt  
Member of Congress



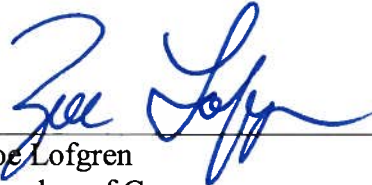
Bill Foster  
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Daniel Lipinski  
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Bob Inglis  
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Zoe Lofgren  
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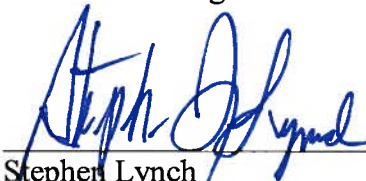
Ron Paul  
Member of Congress



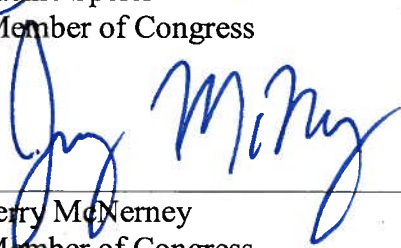
Anna Eshoo  
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Jackie Speier  
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Stephen Lynch  
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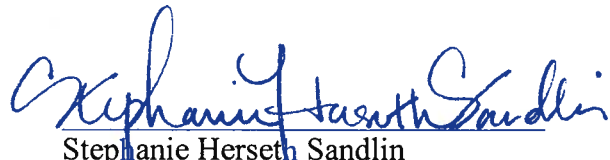
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Stephanie Herseth Sandlin  
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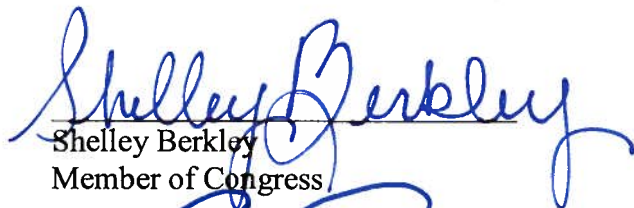
Jason Altmire  
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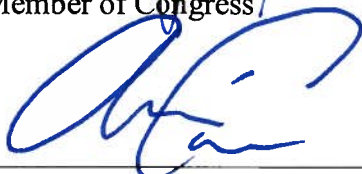
Jay Inslee  
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Shelley Berkley  
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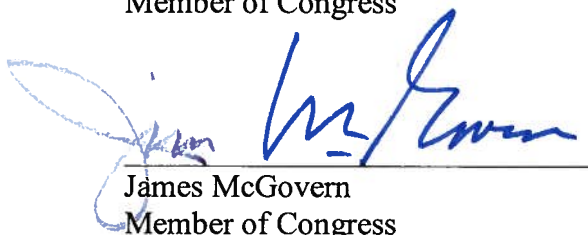
Christopher Carney  
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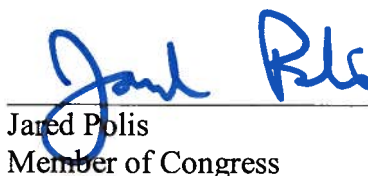
André Carson  
Member of Congress



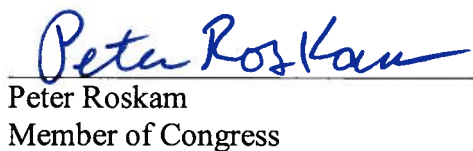
John Yarmuth  
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James McGovern  
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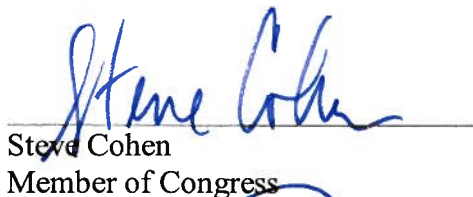
Jared Polis  
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Peter Roskam  
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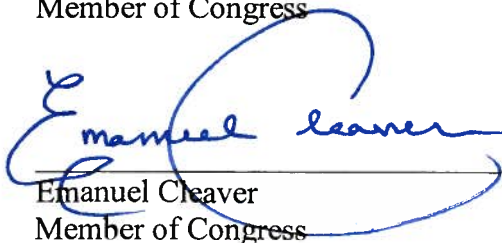
Larry Kissell  
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Emanuel Cleaver  
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Judy Biggert  
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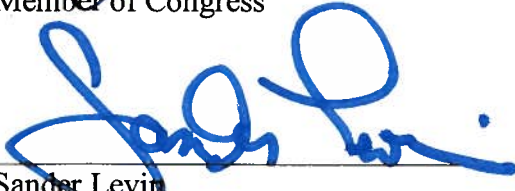
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Timothy Johnson  
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Pedro Pierluisi  
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Sander Levin  
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Mary Jo Kilroy  
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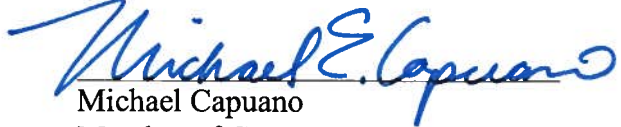
Paul Hodes  
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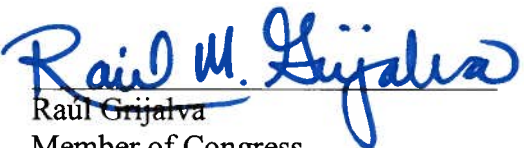
Ron Kind  
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Harry Mitchell  
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Michael Capuano  
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Raul Grijalva  
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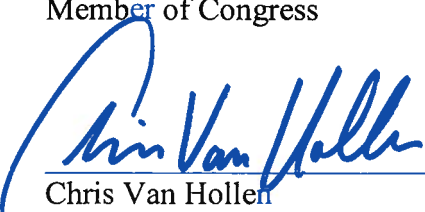
Neil Abercrombie  
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Susan Davis  
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Chris Van Hollen  
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Russ Carnahan  
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Betty Sutton  
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Michael Michaud  
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Eliot Engel  
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Rick Boucher  
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Elijah Cummings  
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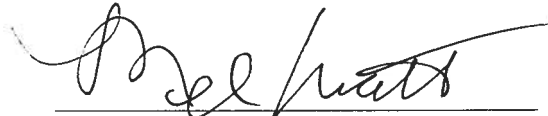
James Moran  
Member of Congress



Robert Wexler  
Member of Congress



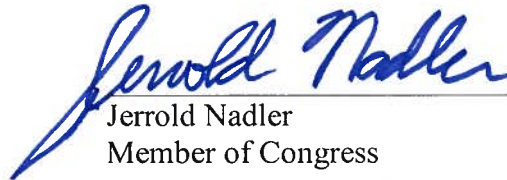
Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress



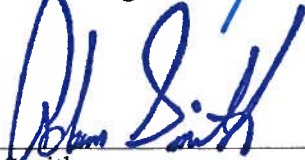
Melvin Watt  
Member of Congress



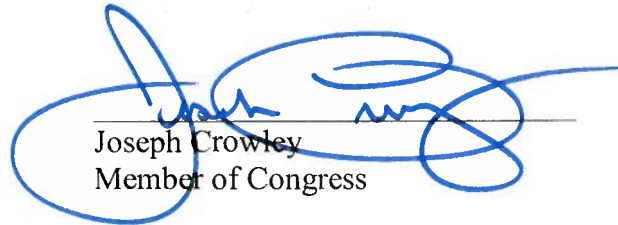
John Dingell  
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Tammy Baldwin  
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Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
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4	Shelly	Berkley	NV	40	Ron	Kind	WI
5	Judy	Biggert	IL	41	Larry	Kissell	NC
6	Earl	Blumenauer	OR	42	Dennis	Kucinich	OH
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8	Rick	Boucher	VA	44	Daniel	Lipinski	IL
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35	Paul	Hodes	NH	71	Robert	Wexler	FL
36	Bob	Inglis	SC	72	John	Yarmuth	KY